



MINUTES

Graduate Students' Association
Board Meeting
Thursday, August 6, 2020
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Online Meeting

Attendees

Christopher Yendt – President
Hannah Young – VP, Internal
Marina Casavecchia – VP, Communications
Mohammad Moinul Hassan – VP, Equity & External Affairs
Upinder Singh – VP, Finance
Daislyn Vidal – VP, International
Adil Naik – Senate Representative

Absentees: None

Regrets: Barb Daly – Office Coordinator
Melanie Extance – Senate Representative

- 1. Meeting called to order at 12:05 p.m. by GSA President presiding**
- 2. Approvals**
- 3. Items Arising from the Minutes**

Executive Reports

President

- Will be having videos with the Dean, one with spots on Campus, another on a bike tour of Niagara
- Will be having monthly townhalls with the Dean of FGS to update students on what the GSA and FGS is doing for students, starting August 19, that will be advertised by both FGS and VP of Communications
- FGS is developing an infographic to differentiate between FGS and GSA
- Will be speaking to the Provost if there are reduced TA positions
- Has had a conversation with the Dean of FGS to discuss the increase in support from supervisors and PIs
- Only 40% of FMS have been allowed back into their labs, this is much lower in health sciences, which seems to be a two part issue of either PIs not applying or students not asking their PIs to apply
- Addressing why a Goodman class was cancelled as it has a direct impact on the necessity of it for international graduate students and specialization in finance
 - This has since been reinstated
- Barb will return on Monday, Mary will officially start training the following Monday
- Will be looking at including home coverage health and dental insurance coverage and trialling it in September
- The GSA is looking at a new physical space on campus, still no immediate possibility for a graduate student bar
- The Zone is still being built and improved on
- Need to host a board meeting and AGM (delayed from April due to COVID) in the fall and need to look at platforms and how to run them with so many students
 - Will be sending out bylaw drafts to be reviewed at next meeting

Vice-President, Equity and External

- CFS meetings – to discuss the challenges of the COVID pandemic
- Has endorsed the Education for All, specifically more grants and less loans
- Attended CFS educational workshops
- Will be unable to attend next week's meeting
- Has been asked by President and VP Communications to work with their committee to identify key impacts of CFS campaigns to Brock students

Vice-President, Internal

- Planning with FGS for orientation, trying to collaborate with other groups on campus to create events and resources that are inclusive the graduate students and create graduate student specific events
- Artist for our paint night has cancelled and will be developing a contract for future events to reduce miscommunications in the future

Vice-President, International

- Has recently been able to get access to the lab again but due to the lab access scheduling there may be a conflict between
- Will be organizing an event with Brock International
- Is organizing an introductory committee meeting for her members

Vice-President, Finance

- Has been brought up-to-date with the fiscal planning
- Has been unable to attend Brock's fiscal planning meetings, Chris will be sitting in his place until this can be accommodated for in the fall
- Will be drafting the preliminary budget for the GSA in the next few weeks
- Request for VP Communications to increase our LinkedIn presence, as a result the VP of Communications will be looking into the value added of attempting to create a larger LinkedIn presence

Vice-President, Communications

- DSL workshops, graduate students now have a new way of signing up, were now a collaborator and will be advertising more, we will be posting on our stories asking for more suggestions
- Confirmed with Chris that Turntable Tuesday will continue in the fall
- Our committee and executives will be asked to share stories with the first 6 weeks theme
- Will be participating in some promotional videos for HRE, with topics on toxic masculinity, feminism, and sexual violence
- Will be sharing the education for all campaign for CFS
- Research and Scholarship Policy Committee asked for class schedules and after telling them I wont be receiving my TA schedule until Sept they went ahead and scheduled it for the fall and winter anyways
- As of August 5 with values representing the number of events (+/- from the previous report)

| Platform | Followers | Engagement/ Interactions/ Profile Visits | Reach (Unique Accounts) |
|-----------|------------|--|----------------------------|
| Facebook | 2423 (+3) | 178 (+21) | 1076 (1.4k) |
| Instagram | 703 (+170) | 74 (+7) | 390 (+15) |
| Twitter | 506 (+5) | 64 (+31) | - |

Upcoming

4. Items for Additional Consideration

A. Other Business

5. Conclusion

A. Next Meeting, August 13, 2020 – 12pm-1:30pm online

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 1:49 pm